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23 March 1956
S. 3456

Notice of Pending Legislation

Office of General Counsel

1. This Agency is in terms excepted from the provisions of this bill (see Section 2). In line, however, with our general policy to comply with general Government personnel policies under the Classification Act of 1949 to the extent that our peculiar functions permit, it may be considered desirable for us to comply with the policy to the maximum extent possible.

2. In general the bill provides for departmental promotional boards, promotional examinations, promotional lists to be compiled from the results of such examinations, and that promotion shall be made on the basis of these lists. In these provisions there is nothing objectionable.

3. The Civil Service Commission, however, would be given by the bill over-all authority to supervise this program. Compliance with the provisions would be at variance with our general policy, sanctioned by law, that our personnel strengths, identities, and assignments will not be revealed to the Commission.

4. No action by the Agency in relation to this bill seems called for. However, if the bill seems likely of passage, it might be well to discuss with the Civil Service Commission ways in which we might implement these policies without impairing our security; alternatively, an internal policy decision might be made that voluntary compliance with these provisions would not be appropriate for the Agency.

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